



March 26, 2015

THE WRECKING CREW



The Wrecking Crew is a time capsule filled with some of the best music that any baby boomer could ask for. The documentary captures the flavors of seasoned session musicians whose work was unrecognized but not unrecognizable. These artists played to the beats that moved the nation. So many memories were punctuated by their rhythms and their harmonies.

If you appreciate music at all, *The Wrecking Crew* is the one to see. Back in the day (I'm never sure exactly which day), singers who did not play instruments well or groups who were configured for television like The Monkees depended on these men and women to fill in the musical gaps where they could not. In other cases, *The Wrecking Crew* added their own riffs and beats to elevate mundane tunes into mega hits.

The Wrecking Crew played with everyone from Sinatra to Simon. The list is endless. Add to their music credits the television theme songs that are embedded in our collective memory and sit back and enjoy the rapturous travel through time and place to see how it all happened. *The Wrecking Crew* is, foremost, a loving tribute to master guitarist Tommy Tedesco by his son, Denny. When you watch these master music makers talk about how they worked, the long hours, the compensation for their time and the ups and downs of the music business, you appreciate their contribution to our culture all the more.

The Wrecking Crew will have you smiling from beginning to end and beyond through all of the credits. Be sure to stay until the end of those as well, and marvel at the list of songs that were not included in the film. *The Wrecking Crew* is a sentimental journey worth taking. You see some of the legends who were part of this story and how some women were embraced as members of this elite club of multi-talented hit makers. *The Wrecking Crew* cranked out recording after recording for years until the industry changed and performers began to make their own music. For their contribution, these men and women deserve to be in the Halls of Fame.

I give *The Wrecking Crew* five golden tickets.





Members of 'The Wrecking Crew' included:

Bass: Max Bennett, Chuck Berghofer, Jimmy Bond, Red Callender, Carol Kaye, Larry Knechtel, Joe Osborn, Bill Pitman, Ray Pohlman, Lyle Ritz

Conductor/arranger: Jack Nitzsche

Drums: John Clauder, Hal Blaine, Jim Gordon, Jim Keltner, Earl Palmer, Joe Porcaro

Guitar: Bill Aken, Doug Bartenfeld, James Burton, Glen Campbell, Al Casey, Jerry Cole, Mike Deasy, John Goldthwaite, Rene Hall, Carol Kaye, Barney Kessel, Don Peake, Bill Pitman, Ray Pohlman, Howard Roberts, Irv Rubins, Louie Shelton, Billy Strange, Tommy Tedesco, Al Vescovo, P.F. Sloan

Harmonica: Tommy Morgan

Keyboards: Al De Lory, Larry Knechtel, Mike Melvoin, Don Randi, Mac Rebennack (aka Dr. John), Mike (Michel) Rubini, Leon Russell

Percussion: Frank Capp, Gary L. Coleman, Julius Wechter, Joe Porcaro

Saxophone: Gene Cipriano, Steve Douglas, Jim Horn, Plas Johnson, Jay Migliori, Nino Tempo

Trombone: Lou Blackburn, Richard "Slyde" Hyde, Lew McCreary

Trumpet: Bud Brisbois, Roy Caton, Chuck Findley, Ollie Mitchell, Tony Terran